

A short summary of what has been accomplished, what is currently happening on the project and what to expect in the near future.

Project Status

The rain has put the entire project a little behind schedule. The project is about 92 days behind with a final completion still estimated to be in 2009. The work is 54 percent complete. Crews are constructing the new eastbound main lanes behind barriers from east of Ingram to Callaghan Road.

At this time, the asphalt crew is placing new pavement on these lanes. The construction of the new entrance to eastbound Loop 410 from Bandera is also underway as is the new permanent exit from

eastbound Loop 410 to Callaghan Road.

Work continues on the northbound lanes of Bandera Road from Loop 410. Once the asphalt crew is complete, the curbs will be added all along the roadway.

Crews are widening the westbound frontage road. Curbs and sidewalks will begin shortly. On the left side of the road, new columns for the westbound elevated ramp can be seen.



Looking west at the new eastbound main lanes

What's Next

By the end of October, the eastbound IH 410 main lanes will be moved onto the new construction. This will re-open the Bandera Rd. entrance ramp. It will also open the new exit to Callaghan. The temporary exit to Callaghan currently being used will be closed at this time. Work will then begin on the center section of IH 410.

In addition, the contractor is working to complete the new northbound lanes of Bandera Rd. Traffic will be switch to the new lanes on a weekend as there is a significant amount of work that needs to be done along with this traffic movement. Bandera traffic will be maintained during the switch; however, it will most likely be in one lane. Once this switch is made, work will begin on the direct connector bridges between the north and southbound lanes of Bandera.

Rains Slows Construction at Bandera and Loop 410

Rain in the summer in Texas used to be the subject of dreams. But 2007 has been different with rain beginning in early June, continuing through July and ending with a tropical storm coming inland in early August. While rain took the heat out of summer, the rains also delayed construction, especially those projects where crews were working underground such as Bandera Road north of Loop 410.

Moving water lines, adding a new storm drainage system, installing inlets and

manholes on Bandera cannot be done in the rain. Not only do the crews have to wait until it stops raining, but the crews have to wait until the ground several feet down is dry before work can begin again. Safety is also an issue with working in the wet weather. Slipping and falling is but one danger. Another pitfall is having the large concrete inlets and manholes slip out of place because of the mud. Then the work has to be done all over again.

You may say, "Wouldn't it be nice not having to

work in wet weather?"
Not really. It's not 'nice'
when there is no income
because no work can be
done. You see,
construction crews only
get paid when they work.

Back to the rain in Texas, even with the many days of rain this summer, Austin Bridge & Road has made progress and anticipates opening the entrance ramp from Bandera to eastbound Loop 410 within a month (of course – if it doesn't rain).

Maggie Rios

LOOP 410 -BANDERA At a Glance

Below, new exit to Callaghan



Project start: Sept. 05 Completion: Mid-2009 Cost: \$75 Million

Description:

Loop 410 expanded to 10 lanes; new bridges at Evers and Bandera Roads, traffic management system.

Two elevated ramps will be built, to and from Bandera Road north of Loop 410. Both ramps will be placed in the center of Bandera Road. Each ramp will begin and end close to Rue Francois bypassing the heavily traveled Wurzbach and Bandera intersection. The existing exit ramp to Bandera will remain.

Construction Photographs







Top Left: Looking east from new eastbound Loop 410 main lanes over Bandera Road.

Bottom Left: Looking west from new Loop 410 main lanes over Evers.

Vertical Photo: Future entrance ramp from Bandera Road to eastbound Loop 410.

